



[4910-13-P]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2012-0184; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-118-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Model SAAB 2000 Airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by reports that environmentally friendly de-icing agents used on certain electrical connectors and braids could cause corrosion damage. This proposed AD would require performing in certain locations a detailed inspection for corrosion of the electrical and electronics installation, and if corrosion is found repairing each affected harness braid or replacing each affected component and/or wiring harness. We are proposing this AD to detect and correct corrosion of critical system wiring, which could result in arcing and, in combination with other factors, a fire and consequent damage to the airplane.

DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- Fax: (202) 493-2251.
- Mail: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- Hand Delivery: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this proposed AD, contact Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems, SE-581 88, Linköping, Sweden; telephone +46 13 18 5591; fax +46 13 18 4874; e-mail saab2000.techsupport@saabgroup.com; Internet <http://www.saabgroup.com>. You may review copies of the referenced service information at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-1221.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>; or in person at the Docket Operations office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this proposed AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Operations office (telephone (800) 647-5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shahram Daneshmandi, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1112; fax (425) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

We invite you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposed AD. Send your comments to an address listed under the ADDRESSES section. Include “Docket No. FAA-2012-0184; Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-118-AD” at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of this proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposed AD based on those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact we receive about this proposed AD.

Discussion

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued EASA Airworthiness Directive 2011-0079, dated May 5, 2011 (referred to after this as “the MCAI”), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products. The MCAI states:

Environmentally friendly de-/anti-icing agents (acetates or formats) are a known cause of corrosion damage to components of the Electrical Wiring Interconnection System (EWIS) on aeroplanes.

Investigations by SAAB have identified certain electrical connectors and braids which are susceptible to such damage, in zones 191 and 192 of the center wing fuselage and in zones 323, 332 and 342, affecting the wiring harnesses of elevator and rudder servos.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to damage of critical system wiring, possibly resulting in arcing and, in combination with other factors, a fire and consequent damage to, or loss of, the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, SAAB have issued Service Bulletin (SB) 2000-92-005 and SB 2000-92-006 to provide instructions to detect unacceptable corrosion on electrical and electronic installation wiring.

For the reasons described above, this [EASA] AD requires a one-time [detailed] inspection of the affected components in the designated area, the reporting of all inspections results to SAAB and, depending on findings, appropriate corrective action [repair or replacement].

You may obtain further information by examining the MCAI in the AD docket.

Relevant Service Information

Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems has issued Service Bulletins 2000-92-005, Revision 01, dated March 1, 2011; and 2000-92-006, Revision 01, dated August 18, 2010. The actions described in this service information are intended to correct the unsafe condition identified in the MCAI.

FAA's Determination and Requirements of This Proposed AD

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country, and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with

the State of Design Authority, we have been notified of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI and service information referenced above. We are proposing this AD because we evaluated all pertinent information and determined an unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Costs of Compliance

Based on the service information, we estimate that this proposed AD would affect about 10 products of U.S. registry. We also estimate that it would take about 360 work-hours per product to comply with the basic requirements of this proposed AD. The average labor rate is \$85 per work-hour. Based on these figures, we estimate the cost of the proposed AD on U.S. operators to be \$306,000, or \$30,600 per product.

In addition, we estimate that any necessary follow-on actions would take about 40 work-hours and require parts costing \$12,454, for a cost of \$15,854 per product. We have no way of determining the number of products that may need these actions.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. "Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs," describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

We are issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in "Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements." Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds

necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

We determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify this proposed regulation:

1. Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866;
2. Is not a “significant rule” under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979);
3. Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska; and
4. Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

We prepared a regulatory evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this proposed AD and placed it in the AD docket.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA

proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39 - AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new AD:

Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems Docket No. FAA-2012-0184; Directorate Identifier
2011-NM-118-AD.

(a) Comments Due Date

We must receive comments by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF
PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Saab AB, Saab Aerosystems Model SAAB 2000 airplanes;
certificated in any category.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 92.

(e) Reason

This AD was prompted by reports that environmentally friendly de-icing agents
used on certain electrical connectors and braids could cause corrosion damage. We are
issuing this AD to detect and correct corrosion of critical system wiring, which could

result in arcing and, in combination with other factors, a fire and consequent damage to the airplane.

(f) Compliance

You are responsible for having the actions required by this AD performed within the compliance times specified, unless the actions have already been done.

(g) Inspection

Within 24 months after the effective date of this AD, do a detailed inspection for corrosion of the electrical and electronics installation, at the locations specified in and in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-005, Revision 01, dated March 1, 2011; and SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-006, Revision 01, dated August 18, 2010. These inspections do not need to be accomplished concurrently.

(h) Corrective Action

If any corrosion is found during any inspection required in paragraph (g) of this AD: Before next flight, repair each affected harness braid or replace each affected component and/or wiring harness, as applicable, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-005, Revision 01, dated March 1, 2011; and SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-006, Revision 01, dated August 18, 2010.

(i) Credit for Previous Actions

This paragraph provides credit for the actions required by paragraphs (g) and (h) of this AD, if those actions were performed before the effective date of this AD using according to SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-005, dated May 5, 2010; and SAAB

Service Bulletin 2000-92-006, dated March 29, 2010.

(j) Reporting Requirement

Submit a report of the findings (both positive and negative) of the inspection required by paragraph (g) of this AD, using the Feedback Form in SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-005, Revision 01, dated March 1, 2011; and SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-006, Revision 01, dated August 18, 2010. Send the report to SAAB Aerotech, Support Services Division, SE-581 88 Linköping, Sweden; fax +46 13 18 4874; e-mail saab2000.techsupport@saabgroup.com; at the applicable time specified in paragraph (i)(1) or (i)(2) of this AD. The report must include the level of corrosion found on each connector.

(1) If the inspection was done on or after the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the inspection.

(2) If the inspection was done before the effective date of this AD: Submit the report within 30 days after the effective date of this AD.

(k) Other FAA AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) **Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):** The Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the International Branch, send it to ATTN: Shahram Daneshmandi, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116,

Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; telephone (425) 227-1112; fax (425) 227-1149. Information may be e-mailed to: 9-ANM-116-AMOC-REQUESTS@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office. The AMOC approval letter must specifically reference this AD.

(2) **Airworthy Product:** For any requirement in this AD to obtain corrective actions from a manufacturer or other source, use these actions if they are FAA-approved. Corrective actions are considered FAA-approved if they are approved by the State of Design Authority (or their delegated agent). You are required to assure the product is airworthy before it is returned to service.

(3) **Reporting Requirements:** A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 2120-0056. Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to be approximately 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, completing and reviewing the collection of information. All responses to this collection of information are mandatory. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden and suggestions for reducing the burden should be directed to the FAA at: 800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20591, Attn: Information Collection Clearance Officer, AES-200.

(l) Related Information

Refer to MCAI EASA Airworthiness Directive 2011-0079, dated May 5, 2011, and the service information specified in paragraphs (l)(1) and (l)(2) of this AD, for related information.

(1) SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-005, Revision 01, dated March 1, 2011.

(2) SAAB Service Bulletin 2000-92-006, Revision 01, dated August 18, 2010.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on February 14, 2012.

Kalene C. Yanamura,
Acting Manager,
Transport Airplane Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-4646 Filed 02/27/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 02/28/2012]